

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF DENTISTRY
FORMAL HEARING
March 09, 2018**

TIME AND PLACE: The meeting of the Virginia Board of Dentistry was called to order at 12:58 p.m., on March 09, 2018 in Board Room 4, Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia.

PRESIDING: John M. Alexander, D.D.S

MEMBERS PRESENT: August A. Petticolas Jr., D.D.S.
Tammy C. Ridout, R.D.H.
Sandra J. Catchings, D.D.S.
Jamiah Dawson, D.D.S.
Patricia B. Bonwell, R.D.H., PhD
Tonya A. Parris-Wilkins, D.D.S.
James D. Watkins, D.D.S.
Carol R. Russek, JD

MEMBERS ABSENT: Nathaniel C. Bryant, D.D.S.

STAFF PRESENT: Sandra K. Reen, Executive Director
Sheila Beard, Executive Assistant

COUNSEL PRESENT: James E. Rutkowski, Assistant Attorney General

OTHERS PRESENT: Lori L. Pound, J.D., Adjudication Specialist
Mary F. Treta, Court Reporter
Nathan C. Mortier, Esquire, Respondent's Counsel

ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM: With 9 Board members present, a quorum was established.

Saman Sepahi, DDS Dr. Sepahi was present with legal counsel in accordance with the Notice of the Board dated February 8, 2018.

Case No. 185054 Dr. Alexander swore in the witnesses.

Dr. Sepahi stated that he was familiar with the order of proceedings. There were no preliminary matters discussed.

Following Mr. Mortier's opening statement; Dr. Alexander admitted into evidence Respondent's exhibits A-B.

Following Ms. Pound's opening statement;
Dr. Alexander admitted into evidence Commonwealth's Exhibits 1-5.

Dr. Sepahi testified on his own behalf.

Testifying on behalf of the Commonwealth was Stephanie Fried, DHP Senior Investigator.

Mr. Mortier and Ms. Pound provided closing statements.

Closed Meeting:

Dr. Parris-Wilkins moved that the Board enter into a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) and Section 2.2-3712(F) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Dr. Sepahi. Additionally, she moved that Board staff, Ms. Reen, Ms. Beard, and Board counsel, Mr. Rutkowski attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Board in its deliberations. The motion was seconded and passed.

Reconvene:

Dr. Parris-Wilkins moved to certify that the Board heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded and passed.

The Board reconvened in open session pursuant to § 2.2-3712(D) of the Code.

Decision:

Dr. Parris-Wilkins moved to accept the Findings of Facts and Conclusion of Law as presented by the Commonwealth, amended by the Board and read by Mr. Rutowski. The motion was seconded and passed.

Mr. Rutkowski reported that Dr. Sepahi received unanimous votes for reinstatement of his license so his application is approved. Dr. Sepahi is placed on Indefinite probation and must complete the terms specified in the Board Order.

Dr. Parris-Wilkins moved the adoption of the sanction imposed as read by Mr. Rutkowski. The motion was seconded and passed.

ADJOURNMENT: The Board adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

John M. Alexander, D.D.S., President

Sandra K. Reen, Executive Director

Date

Date